

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

OES-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 EB-07 /085 W

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R 260400Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9170

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 3357

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YE, ET, US

SUBJECT: YEMENI/ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS

REFS: SANA 3189, SANA 3001

1. DURING SEPTEMBER 21 CALL FOREIGN MINISTER AL-ASNAJ BRIEFLY RAISED CURRENT STATE OF ETHIOPIAN/YEMENI RELATIONS IN LIGHT OF RECENT ETHIOPIAN SEIZURES OF YEMENI FISHERMEN, (SEE REFTELS) AL-ASNAJ REITERATED THAT YEMENIS WISH TO KEEP ON FIRENDLY TERMS WITH ETHIOPIAN REGIME BUT THAT THE ADDIS REGIME HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY UNSTABLE OVER LAST SIX MONTHS WITH A DEFINITE SHIFT TOWARD RADICALISM. A)-ASNAJ EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT CONTINUED US MILITARY SUPPORT OF THE DIRG WHICH HE DESICRIBED AS "CLEARLY UNDER CONTROL OF SOVIETS" WILL ONLY FURTHER STRENGTHEN LEFTIST ELEMENTS. HE NOTED RATHER SARDONICALLY THAT US MAY END UP APYING THE BILLS WHILE SOVIETS WILL REAP ALL THE BENEFITS.

2. AL-ASNAJ REITERATED REQUEST EARLIER MADE OF EMBASSY THAT EFFORT BE MADE AT LEAST TO "SLOW DOWN" THE SALE OF U.S. MANUFACTURED PATROL VESSELS TO ETHIOPIA IN ORDER NOT TO STRENGTHEN ETHIOPIAN COASTAL FORCE NOW AT TIME WHEN ITS RELIABILITY IN REGION AFFAIRS IS
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IN QUESTION.

3. I TOLD AL-ASNAJ I WOULD CONVEY HIS CONCERN TO WASHINGTON BUT EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT THERE IS LITTLE USG COULD DO ABOUT THE COMMERCIAL SALES OF COASTAL CRAFT TO A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT.

4. ON SEPTEMBER 22, DCM RANSOM FORMALLY APPROACHED YAR FONMIN POLITICAL SECTION CHIEF HADDAD TO CONVEY CONTENTS STATE 229207, HADDAD SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO FURTHER INCIDENTS.
SCOTES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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